



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 26, 2021

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Erie County Public Library adds maker kits to virtual programming

Erie, PA – Erie County Public Library today released two additional take-home maker kits: a podcasting kit and a cosplay kit.

The podcasting kit includes microphones and the audio interface needed to create a mini podcasting studio, to be used with a computer and free software programs. This DIY kit allows patrons to try out podcasting before investing in their own permanent equipment, and without needing to book an appointment at Blasco Library's Media Lab.

The cosplay kit includes a block of EVA foam (a popular, inexpensive material for creating custom costume pieces) and a hot glue gun with glue sticks for patrons to make any prop of their choosing. For those needing project inspiration, instructions are included to make a simple foam pouch that patrons can customize to match their desired character.

These two additional maker kits join the library's first series in the collection, including: a jewelry making kit, a printmaking kit and a knife sharpening kit. Each kit includes paper instructions and an online resource at https://eriecounty-pa.libguides.com/maker-kits.

Kits provide an opportunity for patrons to create and make, independent of the patron's ability to visit the Idea Lab in person. They extend the Idea Lab experience to library users anywhere, at any time.

Patrons will request and pick up kits in the same fashion as other library materials: They can place a request through Erie County Public Library's online catalog or contact their nearest library branch for reservation assistance. Like all other library materials, kits can even be delivered to the nearest Bookmobile stop.

Patrons can view and request the available kits in the online library <u>catalog</u>, or may reserve a kit by phone at 814-451-6927.

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